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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/663,777	09/18/2000	Darren Kerr	112025-0197	4077

24267	7590	02/02/2004

CESARI AND MCKENNA, LLP
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EXAMINER
STEVENS, ROBERTA A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2665	

DATE MAILED: 02/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR·1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _18 September 2000_.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-20_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _2_.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: .

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2.   Claims 1- 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sindhu (U.S.

6493347 B2).

3.   Regarding claim 1, Sindhu teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) a method for striping

packets across pipelines of processing engine within a network switch, the processing engine

having a plurality of processors arrayed as pipeline rows and columns embedded between input

output buffer, each pipeline row including a context memory, comprising: organizing the

context memory as a plurality of window buffers of a defined size; apportioning each packet into

contexts corresponding to the defined size associated with each window buffer; and correlating

each context with a relative position within the packet to thereby facilitate reassembly of the

packet at the output buffer, while obviating out-of-order issues involving the contexts of the

packet.

4.   Regarding claims 2 and 12, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) organizing the

processors and context memory of each pipeline row as a cluster.

5.   Regarding claims 3 and 17, Partridge teaches (abstract) segmenting the packets into fixed

sized contexts at the input buffer; sequentially passing the contexts to the clusters; and storing

the fixed sized contexts in appropriate window buffers of the context memories.

6.   Regarding claims 4, 13 and 18, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) providing a

program counter entry point function to indicate the relative position of each context within the

packet.

7.   Regarding claims 5 and 14, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) the relative

position comprises one of a beginning, middle and end context of the packet.

8.   Regarding claim 6, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) processing the context

at a source processor of the cluster; communicating an intermediate result relating to processing

of the context to a destination processor of a neighboring cluster.

9.   Regarding claims 7 and 15, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) providing an

intercolumn communication mechanism configured to forward the intermediate result from the

source processor.

10.   Regarding claims 8 and 19, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) changing the

size of a fixed sized context at the context memory of a cluster.

11.   Regarding claims 9 and 20, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) deleting a

portion of the fixed sized context stored in the window buffer; and substituting the deleted

portion of the context with information stored at another location of the context memory.

12.   Regarding claim 10, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) the substituted portion

is not larger than or smaller than the deleted portion

13.   Regarding claim 11, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) a system for striping packets across pipelines of a processing engine within a network switch, the processing engine having a plurality of processors arrayed as pipeline rows and columns embedded between input and output buffers, comprising: a context memory within each pipeline row, organized as a plurality of window buffers of a defined size; a segmentation unit adapted to apportion each packet into contexts for processing, corresponding to the defined size associated with each window buffer; and a mapping mechanism configured to correlate each context with a relative position within the packet to thereby facilitate reassembly of the packet at the output buffer while obviating out of order issues involving the context of the packet.

14.   Regarding claim 16, Partridge teaches (abstract and figures 4-11A) a computer readable medium containing program instructions for striping packets across pipelines of processing engine within a network switch, the processing engine having a plurality of processors arrayed as pipeline rows and columns embedded between input output buffer, each pipeline row including a context memory, comprising: organizing the context memory as a plurality of window buffers of a defined size; apportioning each packet into contexts corresponding to the defined size associated with each window buffer; and correlating each context with a relative position within the packet to thereby facilitate reassembly of the packet at the output buffer, while obviating out-of-order issues involving the contexts of the packet.

Conclusion

15.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure. McAuley (U.S. 5115436), Modelski (U.S. 6665755 B2) and Partridge (U.S.

6160819) are cited to show the state of the art.

16.   Any inquiry concerning the communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to Roberta Stevens whose telephone number is *(703) 308-6607.* The

examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:30 p.m.

17.   If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor can be reached on *(703) 308-6602.*

18.   Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is *(703) 305-3900.*

19.   **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231 **or faxed to:** (703) 872-9306

For informal draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive,

Arlington, VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Roberta A. Stevens

Patent Examiner

01-23-04

STEVEN H.D NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER